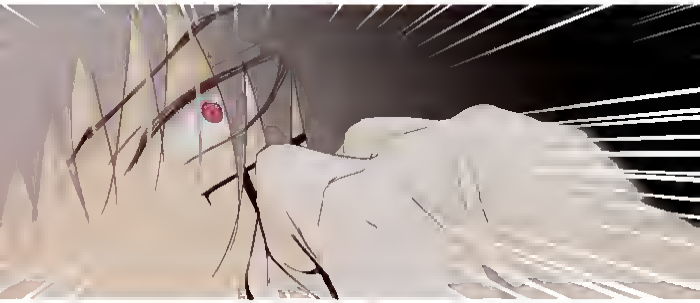
ME?



I'M HIA'S DADDY, YOU JERK.

UH-OH.

SORRY.

I KNOW IF I BEAT UP A COP I'LL BE CHARGED FOR INTERFERING WITH THE POLICE IN THE EXECUTION OF HIS DUTY, BUT...
TO ME, YOU DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A COP AT ALL, SO I MADE A MISTAKE...

WHY DON'T YOU JUST FORGIVE ME SINCE YOU'VE ALSO MADE A MISTAKE TO MY SIDE?
WHAT?

YOU PUNCHED ME IN THE FACE. YOU THINK I'M JUST GOING TO LET THAT PASS?
YOU WANNA DIE?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE ASKING FOR THIS 'CAUSE YOU'VE BEEN SHOWING SO MUCH INTEREST TO HIM.
SORRY TO HURT YOU TEN

KEEP TALKING AND I'M GOING TO TAKE IT AS A SIGN THAT YOU WANT TO DIE...

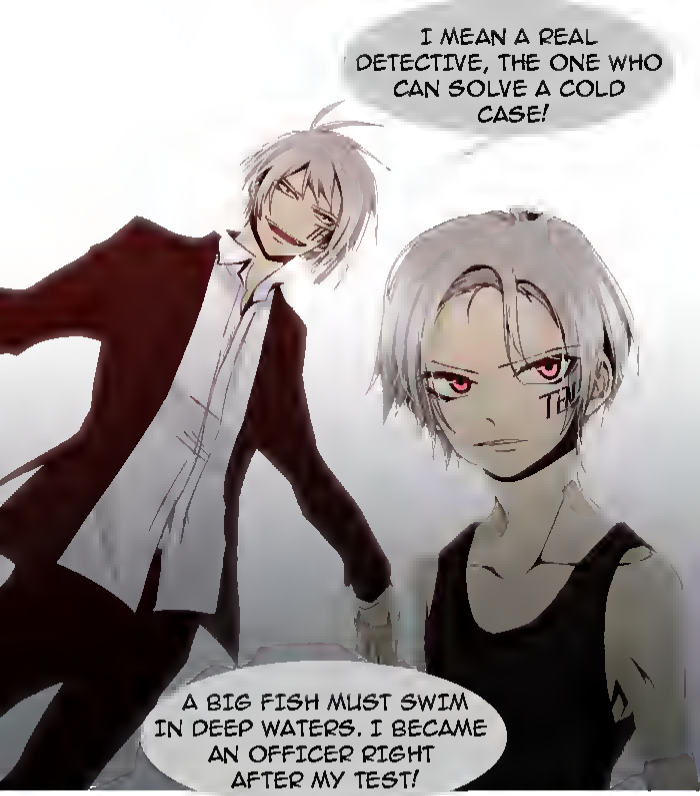
AS YOU WISH.
.....
.....

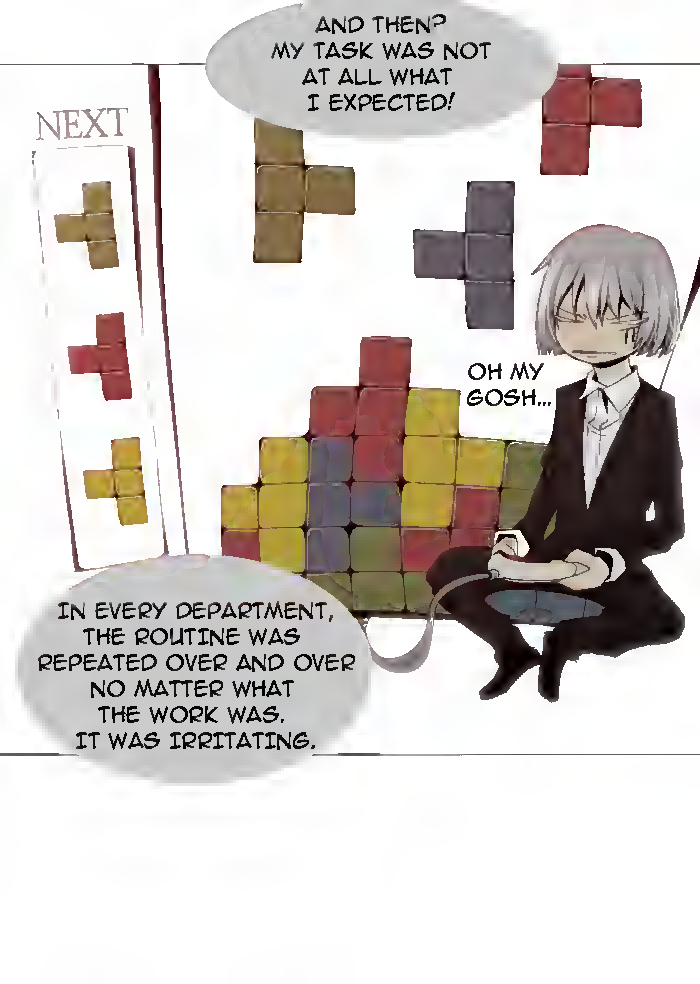
HEH HEH...

HEY. I'LL LET IT GO TODAY 'CAUSE I'VE LEARNED MANY INTERESTING FACTS.

ACTUALLY, I'M A MYSTERY ADDICT.

MY DREAM HAS BEEN TO BE A DETECTIVE OR A PRIVATE EYE SINCE I WAS YOUNG.

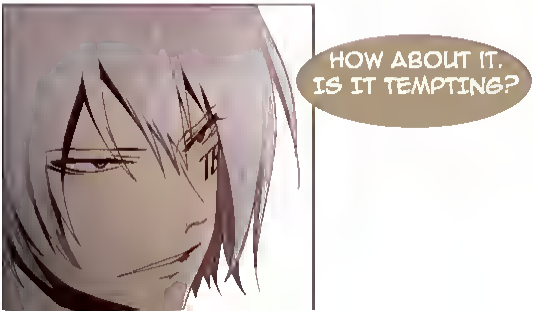

I MEAN A REAL DETECTIVE, THE ONE WHO CAN SOLVE A COLD CASE!
A BIG FISH MUST SWIM IN DEEP WATERS. I BECAME AN OFFICER RIGHT AFTER MY TEST!


AND THEN?
MY TASK WAS NOT
AT ALL WHAT
I EXPECTED!
NEXT
OH MY
GOSH...
IN EVERY DEPARTMENT,
THE ROUTINE WAS
REPEATED OVER AND OVER
NO MATTER WHAT
THE WORK WAS.
IT WAS IRRITATING.

AT FIRST, I WANTED TO QUIT MY JOB AND SNEAK INTO A CRIMINAL GANG TO INVESTIGATE THEM DIRECTLY. BUT THEN I CAME TO KNOW THE MOST FAMOUS MAN.
RAN BELLENEPIA. HE HAS AN $18 MILLION BOUNTY ON HIM.

.....NOW YOU RE TALKING MY LANGUAGE
?
TO KEEP HIA'S IDENTITY A SECRET, I'D HAVE KNOCKED YOU OUT AND HIDDEN YOUR BODY.
BUT, IT WOULD'VE JUST BEEN A STOPGAP SOLUTION. EVEN IF I KILL YOU, IT'S NOT EASY TO HIDE HIA'S SECRET, 'CAUSE PEOPLE WILL KNOW...
THE VICIOUS CYCLE STARTS AGAIN.

HOW ABOUT DIVING INTO THE INVESTIGATION PROCESS IN WHICH WE DON'T NEED TO FIGHT EACH OTHER?
.....A DEAL BETWEEN US?
PRETTY MUCH


HOW ABOUT IT. IS IT TEMPTING?

GRIN-

IF YOU WERE I, YOU'D BE CURIOUS...

SEE HOW I STAB RAN IN THE BACK AFTER 200 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP AND SAVE HIA.

LET'S WORK AS HARD AS MOM TAUGHT US.
THE 73RD BOX

IT'S ALMOST DONE...

YOUR HAIR IS ALL SET NOW.
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?

THE POLICE ALREADY KNEW MY SECRET.
THIS COULD CAUSE TROUBLE FOR UNCLE KASIN BECAUSE HE'S BEEN HIDING ME...

IT'S NOT RIGHT TO MAKE KASIN BECOME A CRIMINAL BECAUSE OF MY DAD AND I.
KASIN WILL BE OKAY...
MAYBE...

YOU'LL INFORM ON RAN?
YOU'D RATHER KILL THE COP, AND BE A HERMIT AGAIN!!
...GET REAL, NORY.
A DAD WAS INVOLVED IN SOMETHING STRANGE AND LEFT HIS SON ALONE. A SON WILL ALWAYS WAIT FOR HIS DAD
AND A GUARDIAN.

IT'S UNEDUCATIONAL TO SHUT HIA AWAY IN A HOUSE AGAIN. I CAN'T DO THAT.
SO YOU'LL SELL RAN OUT TO THE COPS...! THAT'S NOT COOL!!
I KNOW THAT IT'S NOT A GOOD CHOICE. BUT, I DON'T HAVE A LOT OF CHOICES, IT'S TIME TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO
YOU KNEW, DIDN'T YOU?

HE GOT STUBBORN ABOUT WANTING TO GO TO SCHOOL EVEN THOUGH HE REALLY DIDN'T WANT TO. I KNEW, BUT IGNORED IT.
WHAT IS RIGHT...?
WHAT SHOULD I DO TO MAKE A WISER DECISION?

IT'S HARD TO AVOID THE POLICE DRAGNET WHILE I TAKE CARE OF HIA...
IT'S ADVANTAGEOUS FOR US TO HAVE THE POLICE OFFICER ON MY SIDE RATHER THAN KILLING HIM AND HAVING A MURDER ON MY HANDS.
...SO, EVER SINCE YOU BROUGHT HIA TO SCHOOL, YOU'VE INTENDED TO HAND RAN TO THE COPS.
OF COURSE.

I'M SORRY BUT I'M HIA'S GUARDIAN, NOT RAN'S.

THERE S NO WAY THE POLICE WOULD KNOW RAN S WHEREABOUTS

SSH...
IF YOUR PURPOSE IS A MYSTERY GAME AND NOT AN INVESTIGATION, HOW COULD THIS BE BETTER?
IF YOU REFUSE MY OFFER I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO KILL YOU NOW AND TAKE HIA INTO HIDING
IT'S A DULL GAME

WHAT ARE THE TERMS?
GO BACK TO YOUR DEPARTMENT AND REPORT THAT HIA AND I ARE NOT SUSPECTS. YOU'LL TRY TO HELP US ESCAPE THE POLICE DRAGNET.
IF YOU DO IT WELL, I'LL GIVE YOU MORE HELP.

UNTIL YOU CATCH RAN AND KILL HIM

.....YOU'RE CRAZY.

HOW CAN I REFUSE WHEN YOU'RE OFFERING SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
FLIP~

to be continued...